

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for manufacturing a SiC device, comprising:  
depositing a silicon film above a SiC substrate;  
5 delineating the silicon film into required pattern; and  
annealing the SiC substrate in a water rich ambient to  
selectively grow a localized thermal oxide film above the SiC  
substrate.
  - 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure in  
the water rich ambient is selected such that oxidation rate for the  
silicon film is larger than that for the SiC substrate.
  3. The method of claim 2, wherein the H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure  
15 in the water rich ambient is kept more than 0.95.
  4. The method of claim 1, wherein said silicon film is  
delineated into a pattern for an element isolation region.
  - 20 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising :  
forming a trench at the surface of the SiC substrate, before  
depositing said silicon film,  
wherein the silicon film is delineated such that the silicon film  
buries the trench, and the silicon film buried in the trench is  
25 selectively oxidized in the water rich ambient.
  6. The method of claim 1, further comprising forming a

blanket silicon oxide film at the surface of the SiC substrate in an oxygen added ambient, before depositing said silicon film so that said silicon film can deposit on the blanket silicon oxide film.

5            7.        The method of claim 6, wherein the H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure in the oxygen added ambient is kept less than 0.95.

10           8.        The method of claim 6, further comprising selectively removing said blanket silicon oxide film using said silicon film as an etching mask so as to expose a part of the surface of the SiC substrate, before said silicon film is selectively oxidized in the water rich ambient.

15           9.        The method of claim 8, further comprising forming a thin silicon oxide film at the exposed part of the surface of the SiC substrate in the oxygen added ambient after selectively growing said localized thermal oxide film, wherein the oxygen added ambient and the water rich ambient are successively achieved in a same reaction tube so as not to expose the surface of the SiC substrate to an air  
20 outside of the reaction tube.

            10.      The method of claim 1, wherein said water rich ambient is achieved by directly introducing ultra pure water in a reaction tube for oxidation.

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            11.      The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
forming a gate oxide film at the exposed part of the surface of

the SiC substrate in the oxygen added ambient; and

annealing said gate oxide film in the water rich ambient at substrate temperature lower than the substrate temperature at which the gate oxide film is formed.

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12. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

depositing another silicon film at the exposed part of the surface of the SiC substrate;

annealing the SiC substrate in the water rich ambient to grow  
10 a gate oxide film at the exposed part of the surface of the SiC substrate; and

annealing said gate oxide film in the water rich ambient at substrate temperature equal to or lower than the substrate temperature at which the gate oxide film is grown.

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13. A method for manufacturing a SiC device, comprising:

forming a gate oxide film on a surface of a SiC substrate; and

annealing said gate oxide film in a water rich ambient at substrate temperature equal to or lower than the substrate  
20 temperature at which the gate oxide film is formed.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure in the water rich ambient is kept more than 0.95.

25 15. The method of claim 13, wherein said forming the gate oxide film comprising oxidizing the surface of the SiC substrate in an oxygen added ambient.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure in the oxygen added ambient is kept less than 0.95.

5 17. The method of claim 13, wherein said forming the gate oxide film comprising:

depositing a silicon film at the surface of the SiC substrate;

annealing the SiC substrate in the water rich ambient to grow the gate oxide film at the surface of the SiC substrate.

10 18 The method of claim 13, wherein said gate oxide film is annealed at substrate temperature of about 700°C-1050°C.

19. An oxidation furnace comprising:

15 a reaction tube;

a boat configured to mount a SiC substrate;

a heater configured to heat the SiC substrate;

oxygen gas introduction tube connected to an upstream side of the reaction tube;

20 a mass flow controller connected to the oxygen gas introduction tube configured to control a flow rate of oxygen gas;

a water introduction tube connected to the upstream side of the reaction tube; and

25 a conveying pump configured to introduce an ultra pure water into the reaction tube through the water introduction tube.

20. An oxidation furnace comprising:

a reaction space defining means for causing thermal oxidation phenomena therein;

a mounting means for mounting a SiC substrate;

a heating means for heating the SiC substrate;

5 an oxygen gas introduction means for introducing an oxygen gas into the reaction space defining means; and

a water introduction means for introducing an ultra pure water into the reaction space defining means such that  $H_2O$  partial pressure in the reaction space defining means is controlled to any values

10 between 0 to 1.